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**CERTIFICATE OF MAIL (37 CFR 1.10)**

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Patent Service with sufficient postage as Express Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231

on 1/11/2002

Signed:

Mitchell K. McCarthy

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of: Wheeler et al.  
Serial No.: 09/978,477  
Filed: 10/16/2001  
For: DEFLECTION CLIP

Attorney Docket No. MKM1

**RECEIVED**

**JAN 23 2002**

**GROUP 3600**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**Preliminary Amendment**

Dear Sir or Madam:

The enclosed Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) is submitted to correct an error in the filing of the application on 10/16/2001. In that original filing the PTO/SB/08A was included with the requisite copies of the patent documents. However, the IDS statement under 37 CFR 1.97(b) was erroneously not included. The Applicant respectfully requests that the enclosed statement be combined with and reference the PTO/SB/08A form and associated patent documents originally filed.

Respectfully submitted,

By:

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